

GEORGIA HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

MINUTES

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

April 30, 2019

A meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Georgia High School Association was called to order at 1:15 p.m., on April 30, 2019, at the GHSA office in Thomaston, Georgia, by Glenn White, President.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Vice President Lisa Moore Williams. The invocation was given by Associate Director Carror Wright. Roll call by Media Director Steve Figueroa showed the following: Present - 12; Absent - 0

Gary Long
Steven Craft
Curt Miller

Jim Finch
Joe Lancaster
Jasper Jewell

Glenn Tidwell - sub
Michelle Masters
Kandice Mitchell

Dawn Odom
Glenn White
Lisa Moore Williams

After calling the meeting to order, White welcomed new at-large members Kandice Mitchell and Dawn Odom.

Motion by Miller, second by Jewell, to adopt the agenda.

Motion Passed (unanimously)

APPOINTMENTS:

Motion was made by Jewell, seconded by Craft, and unanimously approved to go into Executive Session to hear the student eligibility appeal. (NOTE: Presentations were made in Executive Session; all votes were taken after voting to come out of Executive Session. For clarity, outcome of vote is given after each statement of presentation.)

Lovejoy High School - Ivan Carroll, Baseball coach, presented an appeal of a fine resulting from a baseball game forfeit on 4/20/19.

Motion by White, second by Williams, to reduce the fine to \$250.

MOTION Passed 11-1 (Finch voting no)

Pepperell High School - Brent Chandler, teacher, presented an appeal of a hardship eligibility ruling for student Cole Hickman.

Motion by Masters, second by Jewell, to **deny** the appeal.

MOTION to Deny Passed 11-0-1 (White abstaining)

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Proposal** to add One-Act Play coaches to By-Law 2.54 on page 27, requiring them to take an online rules clinic each school year.

Motion by Williams, second by Miller, to **Approve** the proposal.

MOTION to Approve Passed (unanimously)

2. **Proposal** to add a new item "d" to By-Law 1.44 on page 15 to read "Wrestling - the combination of play dates (wrestling and girls wrestling teams) in which the student participates may not be greater than the current varsity limit of play dates."

3. **Proposal** to set the following weight classes for girls wrestling: 102 lbs., 112 lbs., 122 lbs., 132 lbs., 142 lbs., 152 lbs., 162 lbs., 172 lbs., 198 lbs., and 225 lbs.

4. **Proposal** to add the following wording to item "E" on page 87: "A school may enter its girls wrestling team in competition for six (6) girls playing dates, not including post-season competition."

Motion by White, second by Jewell, to **Table** proposals 2, 3 and 4 and have the office check with an ad-hoc wrestling committee and report back to the board at a later meeting.

MOTION to Table items 2, 3 & 4 Passed (unanimously)

(more)

5. **Proposal** to allow schools the option of having up to 20% of their **head coaching** positions filled by certified "Community Coaches." (Eagles Landing Christian Academy)

Motion by Finch, second by Lancaster, to **Deny** the proposal.

MOTION to Deny Passed (unanimously)

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Executive Director Robin Hines called upon Associate Director Carror Wright, who spoke about the annual Sportsmanship Awards and reminded them to get their nominations in soon.

Hines then asked the committee to think about what the GHSA wants to do about the ever-increasing amount of gifts players are receiving at some of the camps they are invited to attend. Hines said he was contacted by a camp recently that was giving more than \$2,000 worth of merchandise to the invitees.

Hines then called on Associate Director Don Corr who spoke about some problems with baseball teams manipulating their end-of-season schedules to help their power ratings. The board directed the office to put an end to that practice. Corr also spoke of plans to shorten the traditional wrestling state championship tournament from four days to three to help with cost.

Hines informed the board of talks held with Mercedes-Benz Stadium officials in an effort to get the cost of the state championship football games reduced. He reminded the board that the GHSA had to supplement the payouts for schools by \$250,000 last December just to get the payouts to something near past year amounts. He said that could not continue in the future and that he was considering other venues for future championship games. The board agreed wholeheartedly.

Hines asked the board to give their opinion about schools scheduling regular-season games AFTER the "Last Play Date" listed in the GHSA Calendar. They authorized him to do what was necessary to curb that practice.

Hines then called upon Associate Director Kevin Giddens, who went over plans to tweak the evaluation of football playoff officials and make sure the best possible crews worked in the championship games.

Hines then called on board member Curt Miller, who talked about teams holding organized "walk-throughs" during the off-season. Miller asked the office to clarify what was and was NOT legal during the off-season.

A conflict in the Constitution was discussed about whether each region or the reclassification committee was responsible for sub-dividing new regions after the reclassification process. The feeling of the board was that this should be left to the regions and then reported to the GHSA office, and they directed the office to make changes to reflect that.

Motion by Finch, second by White to adjourn the meeting.

MOTION Passed (unanimously)